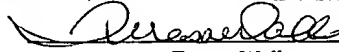




PATENT  
Docket No. IL-10380

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 3-26 2004.

  
Teresa Walls

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|              |   |              |           |
|--------------|---|--------------|-----------|
| Applicants : | Brian D. Andresen et al                               | Docket No. : | IL-10380  |
| Serial No. : | 09/917,475  | Art Unit :   | 2856      |
| Filed :      | July 27, 2001   | Examiner :   | D. Rogers |
| For :        | POROUS PROTECTIVE SOLID PHASE MICRO-EXTRACTION SHEATH |              |           |

AMENDMENT SUBMISSION IN REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
(RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 12, 2004, made final, kindly amend the above-referenced application as outlined below. The present amendment is submitted in a request for continued examination (RCE), provided under 37 CFR 1.114, with the appropriate fee.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

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02 FC:2201 43.00 DA  
03 FC:2202 126.00 DA